



Mrs. Debra Leonard

Learning Consultant

I am Debra Leonard, Learning Consultant with the St. Louis Learning Disabilities Association. I am thrilled to support students at St. James the Greater. While I am only assigned to St. James for twelve hours a week, while there, I am very busy working with students, teachers, parents and administration.

My work with students is rewarding and always interesting. Support ranges from assistance with test preparation, organizational strategies, note-taking, reading and math strategies as well as classroom observations. Ultimately, I want to empower students to understand their learning styles in order to advocate for themselves.

Working with teachers to meet our students' diverse needs is also rewarding. I am usually available at the end of each day I'm at St. James to consult and collaborate with teachers. Collaboration takes many forms such as sharing information on learning differences and presenting research-based strategies to help students succeed at school.

My work with parents is multi-faceted. I am available to discuss student learning concerns and can direct parents to outside services as well. Through my affiliation with LDA, parents and students can access many services such as tutoring, educational evaluation, parent support groups and parent education.

I consider my time working with the St. James community a privilege and love my interaction with St. James students. You can be assured that I will do all I can to make St. James the best possible education experience for all children. To sum up my basic philosophy of education:

"Succeeding in school is one of the most therapeutic things that can happen to a child! So do whatever it takes to help the child succeed in school. Chris Zeigler Dendy